



NEWSLETTER

ST MONICA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

PO BOX 274 -32 FRANCIS STREET, RICHMOND 2753 P: (02) 4570 3700

E: stmonric@parra.catholic.edu.au

WEBSITE: WWW.STMONICASRICHMOND.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU

PRINCIPAL:

MRS MELISSA BEGGS

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL:

MRS ANNEMARIE BOND

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:

FR GAYAN THAMAL

Term 1 Week 7

Tuesday March 8, 2022

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome to week 7! Once again, we are working remotely as we experience another flood in the Hawkesbury. Thank you for your ongoing support and flexibility whilst we manage the severe weather conditions. At this stage we are hopeful that the school will be able to be reopened for those who can access the school on Thursday.

As the bridges are unlikely to be open by Thursday and many of our students and staff will still be impacted there will only be limited supervision at school. All stages have access to remote learning through Google classroom or See-saw and this will continue until access restrictions are lifted.

However, when we do return to school our protocols around COVID safe practices are relaxing. St Monica's will still continue to provide sanitiser and wipes in all learning spaces and have all high touch areas included in our daily cleaning schedule. You will no longer need to sign in using the QR code or wear a mask however if you are visiting the school you are asked to sign in at the office using our regular sign on procedures.

Excursions and sporting events will now be able to go ahead (weather permitting) however we will be mindful of keeping all members of our community as safe as we can. Details for individual events will be sent home as needed.

Assemblies will be able to proceed on Friday afternoons and parents of children receiving awards will now be able to attend. You will be notified by your class teacher via phone or email if your child is being acknowledged. Please note due to the current weather the assembly for this Friday has been postponed.

Wishing you a dry and safe fortnight ahead.

Mrs Melissa Beggs

Principal

"The Holy Spirit, the love of God, acts in our spirit. He comes down "within the heart", as "the soul's most welcome guest". He is the very love of God, who does not abandon us."

Pope Francis@Pontifex



OPEN DAYS

22 March 9am-10:30am

29 March 5:00pm-6:30pm

8 April 9:00am-10:30am

**ST MONICA'S PRIMARY
RICHMOND**



Happy Birthday to the children who celebrated their Birthday in March!!

<i>Jonathon P – S3 Blue</i>	<i>Tyrone L - ASPEC</i>
<i>Edgar S – S2 Gold</i>	<i>Dustin H – K Blue</i>
<i>Oliver G – S1 Gold</i>	<i>Jayden V – S2 Gold</i>
<i>Jade O – S2 Gold</i>	<i>Sophia B – S2 Blue</i>
<i>Drew C – S2 Blue</i>	<i>Amelia O – S2 White</i>
<i>Felicity S – S3 White</i>	

**Congratulations to our Students
who received Awards in Week 3 & Week 5**



Term 1 Awards

Week 3	Class	Catholic Values	St Monica's Award 1	St Monica's Award 2	St Monica's Award 3
	Kindy	Eva-Mae Goggi	Tobias Blackerr	Flynn Taranto	
		Ava Pederson Ivy Sullivan	Summah Refalo		
	Stage 1	Shelby Sultana	Callie Vecchio-Ruggeri	Airen Roy	Nikolai Josevski
			Murphy Anderson		
		Lucas White			
	Stage 2	Jacinta Zahra	Christian Bugeja	Chad Hopper	Tasha Laryea (Welcome)
		Oliver Donnelly	Joel Cauchi	Maddison Finch	
			Summah Borg	Kruze Clark	
	Stage 3	Jazz Sciberras	Curtis Galayini (welcome)		
		Charlotte Hodgson-Harvey	Joshua Kershaw	Cianna Cauchi (Welcome)	
	K-6 Gold	Ezekiel Huxley	Charlie Pace		

Term 1 Awards

Week 5	Class	Catholic Values	St Monica's Award 1	St Monica's Award 2	St Monica's Award 3
	Kindy	Thomas Russell	Oliver Macartney	Elijah Mackinnon	Eve Wilkinson
	Stage 1	Tenielle Refalo	Lucas White	Willow O'Halloran	Ethan Morgan
		Olivia Gauci	Josh McGregor	Levi Heine-Thompson	Lucas Nankervis
	Stage 2	Addison Farrugia	Jake Moulton	Gatleen Kaur	
		Noah Semaan	Andreas Xerri	Mackenzie Refalo	
		Zoe Larnach	Pippa Hodder	Jack Laws	
	Stage 3	Abigail Cruz-Tabua	Jordan Semaan	Rohan swamy	Ariyah Grima
		Tom Brown	Alicia Potter	Alyssa Gelevski	Isabella Saunders (Welcome)
	K-6 Gold	Anthony Attard	Connor Worsman		



Some simple things to do during Lent.

The season of Lent covers the 40-day period before Easter. Each year it starts on a different date (because Easter moves around), although always on Ash Wednesday. It is said that the 40 days reflect Jesus' time of fasting and prayer in the wilderness after his baptism. Many people sacrifice something during Lent (like coffee, sweets, or shopping) as a way to tune their hearts back to God.

The **point** of sacrificing something important is to remember that God wants to be the most important aspect of our lives.

The three pillars of Lent are

- prayer,
- fasting, and
- almsgiving.

These three practices are to help us grow in holiness, and children can participate in all three, to various degrees. Since children don't typically have a lot of money for almsgiving, encouraging them to think of ways they can simply **give** to others. It may be a smile, their favourite treat, or a compliment. With **fasting**, talk to them each individually and see what they would like to give up for a day. It could be dessert, TV, or a car ride home (taking the bus instead). They'll be encouraged to choose their fast. As for the prayer days, any child can pray!

Here are a few suggestions for each of the pillars of Lent.

GIVING

- do someone else's chores
- make another person's bed
- give someone a hug
- say something nice to someone

FASTING

- fast from TV for a set time
- fast from being sarcastic
- fast from saying mean things
- fast from gaming for a set time

PRAYING

- pray for someone who is sick
- pray for peace
- sing a song of praise to God
- read a Bible story



Rather than looking at Lent as a time of sacrifice and "giving something up", try to encourage children to DO something for others.

Parish Sacramental Program- Confirmation

Enrolment forms for Confirmation have been available at the back of St Monica's Church since 19th February. Students in Year 5 or above, who have made their First Communion are eligible to enrol.

Enrolment Ceremonies will take place at all Masses on the weekend of March 26 & 27.

A Parent Information Night will be held on Thursday April 7.

Groups will be formed and commence their preparation through discussion groups beginning on April 24.

Ceremonies will be held on May 21 Saturday 6pm and May 22 Sunday 9:30am or the following weekend - May 28 Saturday 6pm or May 29 Sunday 9:30.

If your child has yet to be Confirmed, please consider enrolment.

Leanne Ryan

Religious Education Coordinator.

SPORTS NEWS

ST MONICA'S ZONE SWIM TEAM.

What a great day for our St Monica's School Swim Team.

Many personal bests were achieved on the day with the students keen to swim. They knew they were going to get wet with either the rain or the pool, so they gave it their all. A big thank you to the school team members for their respectful and supportive behaviour.

The Senior Girls relay came 3rd and will compete on Friday at the Diocesan Swim Meet. Congratulations, Alex, Alicia, Indie and Sienna.

Individual swimmers representing St Monica's will be Sienna M, Beau S who received the Junior Boys Runner up Swimmer and Indie S who received the 11yrs Girl Champion Swimmer.

We wish them well at the Diocesan Swim Meet on Friday 11th March.

Zone swimming certificates, ribbons and trophies will be presented at the Week 8 Assembly (Friday 18th March at 2pm) Invitations will be sent to all Zone Swimmers' parents to attend in the school hall.

A very big thank you to our many parent helpers who attended and assisted on the day.



SECOND-HAND UNIFORM SHOP

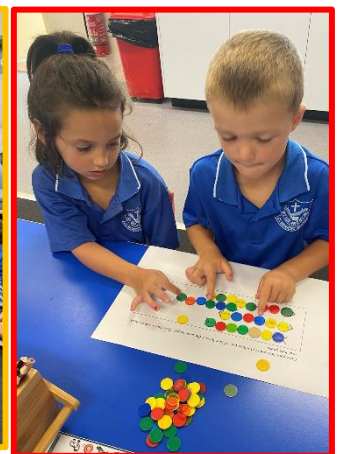
The second-hand uniform shop still remains closed. We are sorry for any inconvenience. If you require any urgent uniform purchases, please contact the office.

NUMERACY AT ST MONICA'S

Numeracy enables you to develop logical thinking and reasoning strategies in your daily life. We need numeracy to solve problems and make sense of time, numbers, patterns and shapes for activities like cooking, reading a map or bill, reading instructions and even playing sport.

Consolidating children's understanding of Number is no longer through a worksheet or drill. In the classroom, students are engaged in their learning through a variety of problems and challenges. Children's motivation and achievement improve when their parents or carers are involved in their education.

You may have noticed Numeracy at St Monica's showcased on our facebook page.



'Numeracy @ Home'

Families are children's first educators of mathematics. Children's knowledge and confidence in understanding and using Mathematics can be supported through the rich experiences of everyday life. The '[Numeracy @ Home](#)' website is a wonderful resource that has videos, tip sheets, a blog, and a facebook feed. I wonder how you might engage in some daily activities that are numeracy based?

The Importance of Reading Daily

It has been wonderful to see so many students across the school take off in reading this term! Students should be reading each day at home as an opportunity to practise and consolidate the reading skills that they are learning at school. Students are encouraged to use their guided reading book from school and favourite books from home but don't forget there are many other ways to engage your child with reading including; following instructions for board games, following a recipe or travel brochures just to name a few. Why not ask your child what they would enjoy reading about and help them find something suitable. For our independent readers, the e-library is accessible through the school website with lots of great titles available. Our non-independent readers also have access to the **PM eCollection** for use at home. Kindy parents will be sent this information shortly. This is a fabulous online reading resource that will supplement home readers.

Supporting your beginning reader at home

Learning to read is tricky and helping your child at home can have its own challenges. Over the next few newsletters, we will include common questions and answers about reading with your beginning reader.

Common Questions about Reading

My child is always looking at the pictures.
Is that ok or should I cover them?



Yes – that is ok that students look at the pictures as they read! This is a strategy beginning readers use to help them understand the story and work out what the text may say. Praise your child for using the pictures to help them make meaning from the story - it shows they have an understanding that the story usually matches what they can see in the picture. Over time they will begin to use the pictures along other strategies such as looking at the initial sound or rereading the sentence and thinking about what word might make sense at that point.

MORNING AND AFTERNOON PICK-UP ARRANGEMENTS

- **In the morning school drop off will remain the same** with parents to say goodbye to children at the front school gate in Francis Street. We have found that this has reduced the incidents of separation anxiety and has increased the level of independence shown by the students. This has also been the overwhelming feedback we have received from the parent community.

- **In the afternoon** at the first bell (3:05pm) we will again open the school for pick up. The front school gate (Francis St) for children in Kindergarten, Stage 1 and 2 and side gate (Bourke St) for children in Stage 3. **Children will be dismissed at 3:10pm.**



Please note: All students will be seated outside the eldest child's dismissal area. Eg if you have children in Stages 2 and 3 they will all be seated together in the Stage 3 area and you would enter the school ground through the Bourke St gate to collect all your children.

Stage 2 will be seated outside the library, Stage 1 outside their learning space and Kindergarten outside their learning space.

This process assists us with limiting the movement of adults inside the school grounds.

We ask that you do not mingle with other parents after pick up or chat with your child's teacher but exit the playground promptly to ensure social distancing rules are maintained as we are mindful that even though restrictions are easing we need to keep everyone safe.

A reminder that in the event you are late to school please bring your child to the front office and sign them in. Your child will be given a blue late note pass at the office and will be asked to take that to their teacher. Parents are asked NOT to accompany children to the class, any messages the teacher needs to know will be passed on by the office staff.

As always, any questions or concerns please notify the school office or your child's teacher.

ENROLMENTS FOR 2023 KINDERGARTEN ARE NOW OPEN

Enrolment packs for kindergarten 2023 are available as follows:

- Packs can be sent home with your eldest child. Please send an email to stmonric@parra.catholic.edu.au with the subject line Kindergarten 2023 Enrolment if you would like us to send home the pack.

Please include your K2023 child's name and DOB

- Enrolment forms are also available from the school between the hours of 9am - 3pm Monday to Friday.

- Enrolment forms can also be downloaded from our website:

<https://www.stmonicasrichmond.catholic.edu.au/>



You can email the application through to us at stmonric@parra.catholic.edu.au , along with any supporting documents.

Please retain the original application form as you will be required to submit that at a later date.

Enrolment forms are required to be returned by 31st March 2021.

[Pack a quick and easy healthy lunch box](#)

**All you need to know
about healthy
lunches.**

FIND OUT MORE



**Cancer Council
Healthy Lunch Box**

Save The Date... PHOTO DAY – FRIDAY 1st APRIL



St Monicas Public School

Photo Day 2022

Friday 1st April 2022

Cashless Made Simple!

Australia is on the brink of becoming a cashless society. MSP Photography have embraced this new change to help improve your school photography experience!

To Order Photos:

Once the school have handed out your photo order form, go to www.msp.com.au, enter your unique shootkey and follow the prompts. If you're missing your shootkey, please give us a call on 02 9831 5505.

Family Photos:

Please order online prior to photo day with your unique shootkey. One shootkey per family. Please note - All orders placed after photo day incur a \$20 late fee.



MSP Photography Sydney West

T 02 9831 5505

E sydneywest@msp.com.au

PO Box 427, Winston Hills NSW 2153

www.msp.com.au

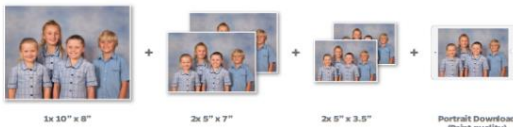
PHOTOGRAPHY PROMOTION PRINTING YEARBOOKS

St Monicas Public School

Friday 1st April 2022

Deluxe Pack

\$43



Value Pack

\$38



Standard Pack

\$30



Gift Pack*

All 7 items

\$11

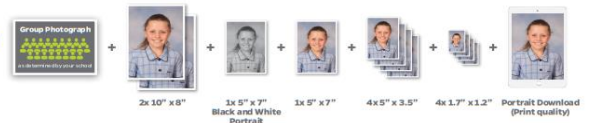


St Monicas Public School

Friday 1st April 2022

Premium Pack

\$60



Classic Pack

\$56



Value Pack

\$52



Essential Pack

\$49



Basic Pack

\$42



Gift Pack*

All 12 items

\$11



Group Only

All 12 items

\$30



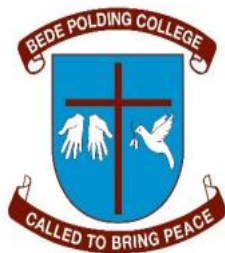
MSP PHOTOGRAPHY
SYDNEY WEST
P 02 9831 5505
E sydneywest@msp.com.au
A PO Box 427, Winston Hills NSW 2153
W msp.com.au

CAPTURING
SCHOOL
MOMENTS



MSP PHOTOGRAPHY
SYDNEY WEST
P 02 9831 5505
E sydneywest@msp.com.au
A PO Box 427, Winston Hills NSW 2153
W msp.com.au

CAPTURING
SCHOOL
MOMENTS



Bede Polding College

Year 7 2023

Key Enrolment Dates

- Enrolment Applications for Year 7 2023 are now available from the College Office or online.
- College Open Day will be on **Tuesday 8 March, 3.30-6pm**. Please see the College website for session times and booking information.
- Completed Enrolment Applications are to be submitted to the College no later than **Thursday 31 March 2022**
- Year 7 2022 Enrolment Interviews will be held during **April** in the College Library.
- Letters of acceptance will be emailed to families during **May 2022**.

Families are reminded that every new student to the College is required to follow our enrolment procedures, even if siblings have previously attended the College.



Term 1 2022 eSafety Webinar for Parents/Carers

Dear Parents/Carers at Catholic Education Diocese Parramatta (CEDP) we see parents and carers as partners in your child's learning journey. In partnership with the eSafety Commissioner, CEDP would like to invite you to join the following free webinar for parents and carers:

- Cyberbullying and online drama

This webinar will be offered three times during Term 1. About the webinar:

Cyberbullying and online drama

Available sessions:

- Thursday 10 March 12.30 to 1.30 pm
- Tuesday 15 March 12.30 to 1.30 pm
- Wednesday 23 March 7.30 to 8.30 pm

This webinar will provide parents and carers with the tools to support young people to have safe and respectful online relationships. It will also offer advice about what to do when things go wrong. It is designed for parents and carers of young people aged 11 to 18 years old.

It will cover:

- starting conversations with your child about their online friendships and positive ways to deal with changing relationships
- understanding the rights, laws and community expectations that govern social media use
- where to seek help if your child is involved in a cyberbullying incident.

What you need to do

Please register for the course on the secondary site via the following link. Please note this webinar is offered several times so you need to select the date and time that works best for you.

- Thurs March 10 12.30 to 1.30 pm - [link to register](#)
- Tues March 15 12.30 to 1.30 pm - [link to register](#)
- Wednesday 23 March 7.30 to 8.30 pm - [link to register](#)